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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The proposed settlement is an extremely bad idea for a multitude of reasons.

Section III(J)(2) contains some very strong language against not-for-profits. These include Apache, Perl, PHP, Sendmail, Samba and the like. All could be excluded because the language says that it need not describe nor license API, Documentation, or Communications Protocols affecting authentication and authorization to companies that don't meet Microsoft's criteria as a business: "... (c) meets reasonable, objective standards established by Microsoft for certifying the authenticity and viability of its business, ..."

Section III(D), concerning middleware, again allows Microsoft to exclude Open Source vendors entirely and the US government.

There are a large number of other failures in the proposed settlement. I oppose it strongly.

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